

When broadcast media management orders stations to air a partisan program without commercials, it is a case where they are putting their own political interests first, which is clearly not serving the public interest. It also violates management fiduciary responsibility to its shareholders to earn the best return it can. The plan by the management of Sinclair Broadcasting to air a partisan "documentary" about Senator Kerry without any balancing material is clearly both an ethical violation of their broadcast license and a breach of their management responsibility.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is also a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. There needs to be an accounting, with appropriate sanctions (possibly including loss of license) for such actions.

Thank you for your attention.